



GAIL FARBER, Director

# COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

## DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

*"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"*

900 SOUTH FREMONT AVENUE  
ALHAMBRA, CALIFORNIA 91803-1331  
Telephone: (626) 458-5100  
<http://dpw.lacounty.gov>

ADDRESS ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO:  
P.O. BOX 1460  
ALHAMBRA, CALIFORNIA 91802-1460

August 26, 2009

IN REPLY PLEASE

REFER TO FILE: PD-2

TO: Each Supervisor  
  
FROM: Gail Farber  
Director of Public Works

### **MORRIS FIRE INCIDENT REPORT AUGUST 26, 2009 – 5 P.M.**

The Morris Fire in the San Gabriel Canyon area continues to burn today and is approximately 10 percent contained. Following is a brief report on Public Works activities related to the fire.

At the present time there is no damage to our facilities. Six Los Angeles County Fire Department (LACFD) Units, Camp 19, and the United States Forest Service (USFS) are staged at the San Gabriel Dam, and they are also using the dam and reservoir to recharge aircraft with water to fight the fire. Our Flood Maintenance staff is assisting the fire response in using the facility and generators to pump water to the landing point in order to recharge the aircraft. The hydro-electric plant at the dam has been shut down for safety reasons.

Our Road Maintenance staff has assisted the USFS and LACFD in battling this fire. Last night our crews closed gates and installed barricades to restrict access on Glendora Mountain Road and Glendora Ridge Road. In addition, in order to ensure access for USFS and County Fire vehicles, our blade trucks cleared rocks from East Fork Road, Glendora Mountain Road, and Glendora Ridge Road (approximately 30 total miles).

Brackett Airport is currently hosting 8 fire-fighting helicopters, with our Airport Operations personnel working closely with contract fire fighters to secure staging areas for their helicopters and ground support equipment. Staff also supports the fire fighters' ground personnel by assisting with refueling of aircraft and the positioning of ground support equipment. The LACFD's East County Air Squad is based at Brackett Airport. It is estimated that over 100 flight operations have occurred at the airport since the

onset of the fire. We are working closely with the other airport tenants to minimize impacts to their activities.

After the fire has been contained, we will identify residential structures, vital public facilities, and Flood Control District and County Road facilities at risk to mudflows. For residential properties found to be at risk from mudflows, we will provide engineering advice for temporary measures homeowners can undertake to protect their homes. A Burn Report will be prepared with maps and pertinent information with recommendations that may include the construction of emergency mudflow protection structures. The report will be available on the Internet along with up-to-date mudflow forecast information

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cc: Chief Executive Office (William T Fujioka, Lari Sheehan)  
Executive Office